

ple which only needs to be carried out by others, whose privileges are equal to ours, to leave our churches empty. Besides this, there is a something, in which we declare our belief, called the "communion of saints"; and if we should be so deaf that no word of prayer or sermon, or note of song, should be heard by us, we could, and should, still share in this "communion."

One may be lawfully detained from worship on some Sabbath, and no sin of omission lie against him; but even then he missed something which he could not get at home. Suppose Simeon, who had waited long for the Consolation of Israel, had been kept at home by a headache on the day of Jesus' presentation, what blessing at home would have been equal to the joy of taking the infant Savior in his arms? Suppose Peter had not been able to be with the other disciples on the day of Pentecost, what blessing in his home would have compensated him for being absent on that glorious day?

Sometimes we hear, as an excuse, this complaint: "I do not like the style of preaching I hear from my preacher." On this ground persons often stay away from church. But the sermon is not all, nor nearly all, of the service. There is worship—prayers, songs, Scripture-reading—and if one does not like the sermon, he should not neglect the other forms of worship. We long for the time to come when all God's people will be faithful and regular in their attendance upon what our Episcopalian friends commonly and beautifully designate "divine service." When this shall come to pass, the church will take a new departure, will be clothed with new power, and achieve more glorious victories than for centuries past.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is."

A Simple Way of Bearing Witness

Exchange.

There are numberless ways of making known in one's home, says "The New York Observer," the fact that one is a follower of the Lord Jesus, and many of these are very simple. There was once a man of morose temperament who became sincerely desirous of learning how he might work out into a happy home humor. "Suppose you begin by passing the butter at table!" was the shrewd advice given him by a well-wisher.

Every day brings choices. We can take scarcely a step without coming to a decision time. We may choose in a moment that which will change the direction of our entire life. The thought is an impressive one and makes our everyday affairs assume new importance and sacredness. But it ought not to frighten us, for if we have made the great choice, the choice of Christ, all lesser choices are determined by it. When we set out to follow Jesus, our life is given its eternal direction.—*Sel.*

He who is false to present duty breaks a thread in the loom and will find a flaw when he may have forgotten its cause.

AN ADDRESS

To the Loyal, Religious, Patriotic Citizens of America:—Much gratified and greatly encouraged at the success of the recent second Annual Convention of the National Good Citizens' League, July 11-13, 1898, we feel that the time has come for aggressive ACTION.

The highest and best needs of the country demand the securing for public office of upright, patriotic, competent men—men of truth, fearing God and possessing high moral courage.

We call upon the awakened citizens of the land to double their efforts to arouse the religious and patriotic conscience of the people, so that all will remember that private duties and public duties run in parallel lines—he that sins against the one does injury to himself—he that falters in the other does injury to the common welfare; and so that the individual will feel it a part of his duty to assist in the eradication of existing evils in every way possible, and especially in the selection for public office of "able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating unjust gain."

The time has also come in the history of this movement when we must appeal to our countrymen for financial support. We are now making an effort to secure ONE DOLLAR contributions to the National Fund. In the next thirty days there ought to be ten thousand responses to this appeal for aid to push this beneficent work, already on the tide of success, and make it a mighty power for good to our Nation and every loyal citizen within its borders. We hope this announcement will not prevent the contribution of amounts either larger or smaller than one dollar. Every little is a help, as was the widow's mite.

One hundred dollars will make you an honorary member, fifty dollars a life member, twenty-five dollars a patron member, ten dollars a sustaining member, five dollars a contributing member of the National Good Citizens' League.

Those who have not the cash, at hand convenient, will please send in their pledges without delay. "The wicked walk on every side when the vilest men are exalted." "When the righteous are in authority the people rejoice; but when the wicked beareth rule the people mourn." "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." "The nations that forget God shall be turned into destruction;" and so with individuals, for "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." And, "Without me ye can do nothing."

Too many men have devoted all their time to their business and left politics to those who make politics a trade. The result is political conditions that make any business venture risky and hard times universal. If the real business men of the nation would realize the necessity of taking an active and intelligent part in politics, the result would be bet-

ter men in office, better laws, wiser policies, and more prosperity and contentment all over the land.

The caucus and the primary should be made the pivot of reform, and here is where every loyal citizen should take an active part in politics—the politics which our leading lexicographer defines as "the science of government; that part of ethics which has to do with the regulation and government of a nation or state; the preservation of its safety, peace and prosperity; and the protection of its citizens in their rights with the preservation and improvement of their morals." The purification and elevation of politics to a high moral plane is the only hope for the preservation of this republic. In the government that is supposed to be of, by and for the people, political blunders in the nature of things will rule unless not only the people at large, but the best of our citizens reduce this theory to practice. The primary source of all legislative, executive and judicial power is the people. This power they wield thro the ballot in a representative republic such as ours, and for the wise use of this power they are morally responsible.

What we need, and what we must have, if we hope for success, is unity of purpose and concert of action. Well-directed action above all things else, for it is high time to be up and doing. Public opinion is ripe for aggressive action, and with the objects of the League properly carried out, reform along these lines can be speedily implanted on the thought of the nation as the most important issue before the American people today.

Thro the non-partisan movement reform can be had inside of party lines by organizing local Leagues, one for each political party, at all voting precincts. Loyal, patriotic citizens are wanted at all precincts throughout the nation to organize Precinct Leagues in every voting district.

For further particulars send two cents for postage, and literature explaining plans of organization.

Address all remittances and communications to the

NATIONAL GOOD CITIZENS LEAGUE,

S. T. Nicholson, General Secretary,
Washington, D. C.

What we are in solitude we shall be in public. Do not for a moment suppose, O self-indulgent disciple, that the stimulus of a great occasion will dower thee with a heroism of which thou betrayest no trace in secret hours. The crisis will only reveal the true quality and temper of the soul. The flight at the Master's arrest will make it almost needless for the historian to explain that the hour which should have been spent in watching was squandered in sleep. It is the universal testimony of holy men that lonely hours are fullest of temptation. It is in these we must conquer if we would be victorious when the eyes of some great assembly are fastened upon us.—*Rev. F. B. Meyer.*